



STATE OF IDAHO

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 2, 2008

ISDA seeks comment on CAFO Siting Scoring and Reporting Changes

BOISE — The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) is seeking public comment on proposed scoring and reporting changes to implement Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Site Advisory Team rules. The purpose of the CAFO siting team is to provide "suitability determinations" on proposed livestock operations based on environmental risk. The suitability determination is provided to the requesting county for its consideration when deliberating conditional use or livestock confinement operation permits. CAFO operations in Idaho primarily are dairy, beef or swine facilities.

ISDA leads the CAFO Site Advisory Team and at the request of a board of county commissioners provides a risk rating related to water quality due to a proposed or expanding CAFO. The CAFO Site Advisory Team consists of ISDA, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, and Idaho Department of Water Resources. Historically a siting evaluation resulted in a risk rating where risk and mitigation were blended together. Risk and possible mitigation were reported to the county that requested a CAFO siting.

ISDA and the CAFO Site Advisory Team members are proposing to change the siting scoring and reporting process.

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The proposed siting process will produce a product that will report the risk category, describe the environmental risk factors, and list possible mitigation. These three components will be reported to the requesting county.

The existing CAFO siting process documents, proposed CAFO siting process documents, and supporting materials are available for review at the ISDA Boise Office, 2270 Old Penitentiary Road, Boise Idaho, 83712.

The proposed score sheets and mitigation list are available at the following link:

<http://www.agri.idaho.gov/Categories/Environment/cafoSiting/public-comment.php>

Submit written comments via email or mail by 5 p.m. MST, Thursday, July 31, 2008, to:

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